

depression in tea, attainment of working conditions, improved health, improved education, improved social conditions, reduced cultivation and the trifling dividend which evidences lack of prosperity. We need any no more of coffee than that it has been almost abandoned in Ceylon, and sent a score of men to seek their fortunes in other colonies. To revert then to the scheme of which we have just made mention. There is a large tract of land in the southern portion of the Ceylonese provinces of the district of Tavoy, the most fertile for colonization on rent-free terms. There is a large tract of virgin soil, fertile and abundant, upon a mountain range of 6,000 feet altitude, diversified by river and lake. The climate is

the population has presented the labor difficulty. But this we hear may be said to have belonged to the past, and there is no obstacle now to the obtaining of ample labour, once the stream is directed to the district. What is wanted is capital. Men without means cannot of course embark in an enterprise which necessitates expenditure. They must wait for profit; but the avidity with which the shares in the North Borneo Company were

taken up, shows that the dubious nature of almost foreign investments has led the English public to seize upon any outlet for speculation that gives a really honest promise. Money cannot be tied up, and there is an abundance of it in the English market, which might as confidently be directed to the colonization of Tavea, as to the possibilities of Borneo. It was projected, we understand, to form a Company for the so-

possession of the entire district available for planting operations, with capital raised in England, a directorate in London, and a superintendent of operations, who, according to the various suitability of the soil, would lay out the country in plantations. The assistants would all be experienced planters, who would have special knowledge and opportunity in course of time of taking up land on their own account, being

assisted by the Company with agricultural advances. There is nothing in such a scheme beyond what is practicable; and it is understood that the Chief Commissioner of British Burma and the Government of India would favourably view any proposals for the promotion of planting interests. Nothing has gone beyond the initial idea.—*Indian Statesman.*

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THURSDAY, 13th March.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Bank Bills, on 1st Jan 1891 | 3/7 |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight | 3/7½ |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight | 3/8 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight | 3/8½ |
| Discounted Bills, at 4 months' | |

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------|
| ON PARR.— | Bank Bills, on demand..... | 4.56 |
| | Credits, at 4 months' sight..... | 4.66 |
| ON BOMBAY.— | Bank, 3 days' sight..... | 220½ |
| ON CALCUTTA.— | Bank, 3 days' sight..... | 220½ |
| ON SHANGHAI.— | Bank, sight..... | 73½ |
| | Private, 30 days' sight..... | 73½ |

Steamboats have risen further with sales today at \$40, \$43, and \$44 premium, and close with buyers at \$43 premium. Sales of Bank have been made at 130 per cent. for the end of April and 132 per cent. for the end of March. Selangor Tins are in request at \$450 per share. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—15

per cent. premium.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited—
\$600 per share.
China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—
\$75 per share.
North China Insurance—Tls. 1,350 per share.
Yangtze Insurance Association—Tls. 141 p
share.
Chinese Insurance Company, Limited—\$195 p

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—11s. 1d. per share.
Canton Insurance Office, Limited—\$102 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$345 per share.
China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—\$ per share.
Kowloon and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—\$ per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company
Shares—43 per cent. premium.
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.
Shares—843 premium.
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—
25 per cent. discount.
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited
—Par.
Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—88 1/2 p
share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—\$150 p
share.
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$1
per share.
China Sugar Refining Company (Debentures)
Nominal.
Lazoo Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$
per share.
Hongkong Ice Company's Shares—\$150 p

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$100 per share.
 Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$215 per share.
 Selangor Tin Mining Company—\$450 per share.
 Perak Sugar Cultivation Company—Tls. 35 per share.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1874—Nominal.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1877—Nominal.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1878—Nominal.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1881—Par.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(FROM MISSIE FALCONER & Co.'s REGISTER.)

March 15th.

Barometer—S.A.M. 30.748

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Barometer—1 P.M. | 80.135 |
| Barometer—6 P.M. | 80.146 |
| Thermometer—9 A.M. | 38 |
| Thermometer—1 P.M. | 59 |
| Thermometer—6 P.M. | 49 |
| Thermometer—9 A.M. (Wet bulb) | 56 |
| Thermometer—1 P.M. (Wet bulb) | 45 |
| Thermometer—6 P.M. (Wet bulb) | 45 |
| Thermometer—Maximum | 59 |
| Thermometer—Minimum | 39 |

HONGKONG TIDE-TABLE.

1424 to 30th March, 1834.

| HIGH WATER. | | LOW WATER. | |
|-------------|--------|------------|--------|
| Day. | Hour. | Day. | Hour. |
| 1st | 11 1/2 | 1st | 11 1/2 |
| 2nd | 11 1/2 | 2nd | 11 1/2 |
| 3rd | 11 1/2 | 3rd | 11 1/2 |
| 4th | 11 1/2 | 4th | 11 1/2 |
| 5th | 11 1/2 | 5th | 11 1/2 |
| 6th | 11 1/2 | 6th | 11 1/2 |
| 7th | 11 1/2 | 7th | 11 1/2 |
| 8th | 11 1/2 | 8th | 11 1/2 |
| 9th | 11 1/2 | 9th | 11 1/2 |
| 10th | 11 1/2 | 10th | 11 1/2 |
| 11th | 11 1/2 | 11th | 11 1/2 |
| 12th | 11 1/2 | 12th | 11 1/2 |
| 13th | 11 1/2 | 13th | 11 1/2 |
| 14th | 11 1/2 | 14th | 11 1/2 |
| 15th | 11 1/2 | 15th | 11 1/2 |
| 16th | 11 1/2 | 16th | 11 1/2 |
| 17th | 11 1/2 | 17th | 11 1/2 |
| 18th | 11 1/2 | 18th | 11 1/2 |
| 19th | 11 1/2 | 19th | 11 1/2 |
| 20th | 11 1/2 | 20th | 11 1/2 |
| 21st | 11 1/2 | 21st | 11 1/2 |
| 22nd | 11 1/2 | 22nd | 11 1/2 |
| 23rd | 11 1/2 | 23rd | 11 1/2 |
| 24th | 11 1/2 | 24th | 11 1/2 |
| 25th | 11 1/2 | 25th | 11 1/2 |
| 26th | 11 1/2 | 26th | 11 1/2 |
| 27th | 11 1/2 | 27th | 11 1/2 |
| 28th | 11 1/2 | 28th | 11 1/2 |
| 29th | 11 1/2 | 29th | 11 1/2 |
| 30th | 11 1/2 | 30th | 11 1/2 |

| Sex | Age | Mean Time. | Height. | Mean Time. | Height. |
|------|-----|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------|
| ft. | in. | ft. | in. | ft. | in. |
| F. | 24 | m 10 41. n 10 45 a | 5 8 5 8 | m 6 23 m 6 34 | 5 8 5 8 |
| Gal. | 16 | m 11 18 a | 5 8 5 9 | m 4 59 m 5 19 a | 5 8 5 8 |
| S. | 16 | m 11 31 n 11 49 a | 5 8 5 9 | m 5 16 m 5 26 | 5 8 5 8 |
| M. | 17 | m 11 58 | 5 9 5 10 | m 5 41 m 5 56 a | 5 8 5 8 |
| F. | 16 | m 10 50 | 5 11 5 11 | m 6 5 m 6 5 | 5 8 5 8 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----|---|---|--------|-----|---|---------|-------|
| W. | 19 | m | 1 | 0 29 a | 3 3 | m | 8 0 a | 1 0 3 |
| | | | 3 | 1 3 | 1 6 | | 8 24 | 0 3 |
| | | | 1 | 7 a | 3 9 | | 9 13 a | 1 3 |
| Th. | 30 | m | 5 | 7 | 1 5 | m | 9 7 | 1 5 |
| | | | 3 | 2 a | 5 7 | | 10 31 a | 0 4 |

The height of mean sea-level has been determined at 7595 feet above zero of the tide gauge at the Victoria Naval Yard, and the Low-water Ordinary Spring-Tide to which datum the heights in these Tables are referred, as 8.595 feet above zero.

The heights in the Tables marked with a minus (—) sign

are below Low-Water Ordinary Spring-Tides, and should be subtracted from the constants given above.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

12th March, 1884.
at 4 P.M.

1884. 1. 2. 3. Wind. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12.

| STATION. | Baromet. red to sea level. | Thermom. 59° Fahr. | Humidit. Fath. | Direction, Force. | Weather. | Wind bar. |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Manila..... | 29.59 | 84.8 | 83 | SE | 5 | — |
| Hongkong..... | 30.10 | 80.6 | 68 | SE | 5 | — |
| Amoy..... | 30.13 | 87.0 | 81 | SE | 4 | — |
| Poohoo..... | 30.37 | 83.3 | 67 | SE | 5 | od |
| Shanghai..... | 30.23 | 83.1 | 66 | NW | 3 | by |
| Nagasaki..... | 30.08 | — | — | W | 3 | — |
| Windsor- stock..... | 30.92 | 10.4 | — | W | 4 | — |

| 1912-March, 1884, at 10 A.M. | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--------|----------|------------------------|--------------------|
| STATION. | Barometer red. to sea level | Therm. 5 fms. sur- face. | Humidity. | Wind. Direc- tion. | Force. | Weather. | Wind hat direction. | Wind hat force. |
| Manila | 30.06 | 79.8 | 67 | var | 3 | b c | | |
| Hongkong..... | 30.20 | 58.3 | 81 | var | 3 | c | | 0.03 |
| Amoy | 30.23 | 55.0 | 74 | var | 3 | c | | |
| Foochow | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|------|----|-----|---|---|------|
| Shanghai..... | 30.4 | 37.0 | 76 | SEN | 3 | c | 0.04 |
| Nagasaki..... | 30.25 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Wladivostok..... | 29.6 | 12.4 | — | x | 4 | b | — |

→ The Barometer as well as the Temperature and Humidity have fallen along the Coastland in Maqua. Gradicals indicate moderate N.E. winds.

W. DOBERCK.
Hongkong Observatory, 18th March, 1894.

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